

Fair and colder; probably from Saturday morning; winds shifting to northeasterly with increasing force.

NO. 527.

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 1897—SIX PAGES.

The Circulation of THE TIMES Yesterday
37,554
COPIES.

ONE CENT.

FLOOD'S AWFUL NUMBERS

At Least Two Hundred Drowned and Thousands Missing.

SOME APPALLING STATISTICS

One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Persons Are Homeless, Seven Hundred Towns and Villages Submerged and the Property Loss One Hundred Millions.

Memphis, Tenn., April 9.—(Despatch and telegraph.) No two other words in the English language can fitly describe the terrible havoc wrought and being wrought in the valley of the Mississippi by the most awful flood known in the history of the country.

Hundreds of human lives and millions of dollars' worth of property have been swallowed up in the relentless rush of waters, and the end is not yet. Between the junction of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers and the Gulf of Mexico no less than 150,000 people are homeless today. Tomorrow there will be more. For, as the night, Mississippi and its flood-swollen tributaries creep higher, inch by inch, new crevasses are opened in the levees which keep with a roar through the torn embankments, and, sweeping everything before them, lay waste the land as far as the eye can reach.

Figures are often said, and justly, to be dry reading. But by figures one can get an idea of the appalling extent of the ruin which has come upon the people of five of the States which border the Father of Waters south of St. Louis. As conveyed to those who are not here to see for themselves. The figures need not be many. Number of lives known to be lost, 200; number of people unaccounted for, but it is hoped, safe somewhere in the inundated district, 100,000; number of farm animals drowned, 10,000; number of square miles of land deep under water, 15,000; value of property damaged or destroyed, \$100,000.

An army of 20,000 men are battling, as no men have battled along the Mississippi since the days of Vicksburg and Natchez, to stay the mad rush of waters. Night and day, with a sleepless energy born of desperation, they pick and spade and shovel in their efforts to uphold and strengthen the artificial embankments which stand between their homes and destruction. Victory to them means every thing. Defeat the loss of everything. And, alas, defeat has been the portion of many.

From St. Louis almost to the very outskirts of New Orleans both sides of the Mississippi river miles back into the States are under water. Between Cairo, Ill., and Memphis the river is twenty-five miles wide and spreading. At other points farther south the waste of waters stretches away for forty miles. Not since the great flood of 1849, of which old soldiers at the Mississippi yet speak with a shudder, has an overflow so widespread and far-reaching in its terrible consequences been recorded. Nearly 700 towns and villages are partly or wholly submerged, while the farmhouses and buildings that have been crowded into the narrow strips of land between the levees are being swept away. From these towns and villages, as well as from the farmhouses, the people have fled, often times with no earthly possessions other than the clothes upon their backs, to take refuge on higher ground. Memphis today contains thousands of these refugees. They are quartered at Camp Crockett, a temporary city of tents, brought into existence by their necessities. More flood-ridden, homeless families are added to their number every hour. At Arcola, Miss., a little town of 500 inhabitants, the water has reached the roofs of the houses. The people are fleeing toward the place from all directions. Arcola stands upon a little knoll which has been converted into an island by the swelling waters, which surround it. Should these waters continue rising and no steamboats arrive to take the people off and a miracle would save them from drowning. Railroad communication has been shut off, and the refugees are sleeping in the box cars left behind.

Arcola is only a single illustration of the desperate situation. It could be multiplied several scores of times. Grace's Station is a town midway between Vicksburg and Arcola. A message received from there says there are 200 persons, mostly colored people, huddled about the station trying to keep out of reach of the rapidly-rising water. A crevasse had appeared in the levee just below them, through which the muddy flood was pouring in a torrent. Immediate help was urged, the telegram saying that the lives of the entire town were in danger.

Vicksburg is another haven of refuge for the panic-stricken victims of the flood. The city is rapidly filling up with people, principally colored folks, all of whom were compelled to leave everything behind them when they fled before the rush of waters. Just below Vicksburg four hundred convicts are at work on a piece of levee 2,500 feet in length. It is hoped to raise this stretch faster than the water rises. If the effort proves futile the consequences cannot be too appalling.

The break in Tensas county, Miss., is considered one of the most disastrous of the many breaks already reported. Many term it the climax of ruin to the Delta. It means a loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars to the counties in the Delta, not one of which will escape. The Upper Sunflower River, which has not risen above its banks in thirteen years, is expected to flood the entire district through which it runs, and the inhabitants are working night and day to get their belongings out of the water's reach.

The two hundred and odd levees known to have occurred since 1880, and in 1880 and 1881, and in 1882 and 1883, and in 1884 and 1885, and in 1886 and 1887, and in 1888 and 1889, and in 1890 and 1891, and in 1892 and 1893, and in 1894 and 1895, and in 1896 and 1897, and in 1898 and 1899, and in 1900 and 1901, and in 1902 and 1903, and in 1904 and 1905, and in 1906 and 1907, and in 1908 and 1909, and in 1910 and 1911, and in 1912 and 1913, and in 1914 and 1915, and in 1916 and 1917, and in 1918 and 1919, and in 1920 and 1921, and in 1922 and 1923, and in 1924 and 1925, and in 1926 and 1927, and in 1928 and 1929, and in 1930 and 1931, and in 1932 and 1933, and in 1934 and 1935, and in 1936 and 1937, and in 1938 and 1939, and in 1940 and 1941, and in 1942 and 1943, and in 1944 and 1945, and in 1946 and 1947, and in 1948 and 1949, and in 1950 and 1951, and in 1952 and 1953, and in 1954 and 1955, and in 1956 and 1957, and in 1958 and 1959, and in 1960 and 1961, and in 1962 and 1963, and in 1964 and 1965, and in 1966 and 1967, and in 1968 and 1969, and in 1970 and 1971, and in 1972 and 1973, and in 1974 and 1975, and in 1976 and 1977, and in 1978 and 1979, and in 1980 and 1981, and in 1982 and 1983, and in 1984 and 1985, and in 1986 and 1987, and in 1988 and 1989, and in 1990 and 1991, and in 1992 and 1993, and in 1994 and 1995, and in 1996 and 1997, and in 1998 and 1999, and in 2000 and 2001, and in 2002 and 2003, and in 2004 and 2005, and in 2006 and 2007, and in 2008 and 2009, and in 2010 and 2011, and in 2012 and 2013, and in 2014 and 2015, and in 2016 and 2017, and in 2018 and 2019, and in 2020 and 2021, and in 2022 and 2023, and in 2024 and 2025, and in 2026 and 2027, and in 2028 and 2029, and in 2030 and 2031, and in 2032 and 2033, and in 2034 and 2035, and in 2036 and 2037, and in 2038 and 2039, and in 2040 and 2041, and in 2042 and 2043, and in 2044 and 2045, and in 2046 and 2047, and in 2048 and 2049, and in 2050 and 2051, and in 2052 and 2053, and in 2054 and 2055, and in 2056 and 2057, and in 2058 and 2059, and in 2060 and 2061, and in 2062 and 2063, and in 2064 and 2065, and in 2066 and 2067, and in 2068 and 2069, and in 2070 and 2071, and in 2072 and 2073, and in 2074 and 2075, and in 2076 and 2077, and in 2078 and 2079, and in 2080 and 2081, and in 2082 and 2083, and in 2084 and 2085, and in 2086 and 2087, and in 2088 and 2089, and in 2090 and 2091, and in 2092 and 2093, and in 2094 and 2095, and in 2096 and 2097, and in 2098 and 2099, and in 2100 and 2101, and in 2102 and 2103, and in 2104 and 2105, and in 2106 and 2107, and in 2108 and 2109, and in 2110 and 2111, and in 2112 and 2113, and in 2114 and 2115, and in 2116 and 2117, and in 2118 and 2119, and in 2120 and 2121, and in 2122 and 2123, and in 2124 and 2125, and in 2126 and 2127, and in 2128 and 2129, and in 2130 and 2131, and in 2132 and 2133, and in 2134 and 2135, and in 2136 and 2137, and in 2138 and 2139, and in 2140 and 2141, and in 2142 and 2143, and in 2144 and 2145, and in 2146 and 2147, and in 2148 and 2149, and in 2150 and 2151, and in 2152 and 2153, and in 2154 and 2155, and in 2156 and 2157, and in 2158 and 2159, and in 2160 and 2161, and in 2162 and 2163, and in 2164 and 2165, and in 2166 and 2167, and in 2168 and 2169, and in 2170 and 2171, and in 2172 and 2173, and in 2174 and 2175, and in 2176 and 2177, and in 2178 and 2179, and in 2180 and 2181, and in 2182 and 2183, and in 2184 and 2185, and in 2186 and 2187, and in 2188 and 2189, and in 2190 and 2191, and in 2192 and 2193, and in 2194 and 2195, and in 2196 and 2197, and in 2198 and 2199, and in 2200 and 2201, and in 2202 and 2203, and in 2204 and 2205, and in 2206 and 2207, and in 2208 and 2209, and in 2210 and 2211, and in 2212 and 2213, and in 2214 and 2215, and in 2216 and 2217, and in 2218 and 2219, and in 2220 and 2221, and in 2222 and 2223, and in 2224 and 2225, and in 2226 and 2227, and in 2228 and 2229, and in 2230 and 2231, and in 2232 and 2233, and in 2234 and 2235, and in 2236 and 2237, and in 2238 and 2239, and in 2240 and 2241, and in 2242 and 2243, and in 2244 and 2245, and in 2246 and 2247, and in 2248 and 2249, and in 2250 and 2251, and in 2252 and 2253, and in 2254 and 2255, and in 2256 and 2257, and in 2258 and 2259, and in 2260 and 2261, and in 2262 and 2263, and in 2264 and 2265, and in 2266 and 2267, and in 2268 and 2269, and in 2270 and 2271, and in 2272 and 2273, and in 2274 and 2275, and in 2276 and 2277, and in 2278 and 2279, and in 2280 and 2281, and in 2282 and 2283, and in 2284 and 2285, and in 2286 and 2287, and in 2288 and 2289, and in 2290 and 2291, and in 2292 and 2293, and in 2294 and 2295, and in 2296 and 2297, and in 2298 and 2299, and in 2300 and 2301, and in 2302 and 2303, and in 2304 and 2305, and in 2306 and 2307, and in 2308 and 2309, and in 2310 and 2311, and in 2312 and 2313, and in 2314 and 2315, and in 2316 and 2317, and in 2318 and 2319, and in 2320 and 2321, and in 2322 and 2323, and in 2324 and 2325, and in 2326 and 2327, and in 2328 and 2329, and in 2330 and 2331, and in 2332 and 2333, and in 2334 and 2335, and in 2336 and 2337, and in 2338 and 2339, and in 2340 and 2341, and in 2342 and 2343, and in 2344 and 2345, and in 2346 and 2347, and in 2348 and 2349, and in 2350 and 2351, and in 2352 and 2353, and in 2354 and 2355, and in 2356 and 2357, and in 2358 and 2359, and in 2360 and 2361, and in 2362 and 2363, and in 2364 and 2365, and in 2366 and 2367, and in 2368 and 2369, and in 2370 and 2371, and in 2372 and 2373, and in 2374 and 2375, and in 2376 and 2377, and in 2378 and 2379, and in 2380 and 2381, and in 2382 and 2383, and in 2384 and 2385, and in 2386 and 2387, and in 2388 and 2389, and in 2390 and 2391, and in 2392 and 2393, and in 2394 and 2395, and in 2396 and 2397, and in 2398 and 2399, and in 2400 and 2401, and in 2402 and 2403, and in 2404 and 2405, and in 2406 and 2407, and in 2408 and 2409, and in 2410 and 2411, and in 2412 and 2413, and in 2414 and 2415, and in 2416 and 2417, and in 2418 and 2419, and in 2420 and 2421, and in 2422 and 2423, and in 2424 and 2425, and in 2426 and 2427, and in 2428 and 2429, and in 2430 and 2431, and in 2432 and 2433, and in 2434 and 2435, and in 2436 and 2437, and in 2438 and 2439, and in 2440 and 2441, and in 2442 and 2443, and in 2444 and 2445, and in 2446 and 2447, and in 2448 and 2449, and in 2450 and 2451, and in 2452 and 2453, and in 2454 and 2455, and in 2456 and 2457, and in 2458 and 2459, and in 2460 and 2461, and in 2462 and 2463, and in 2464 and 2465, and in 2466 and 2467, and in 2468 and 2469, and in 2470 and 2471, and in 2472 and 2473, and in 2474 and 2475, and in 2476 and 2477, and in 2478 and 2479, and in 2480 and 2481, and in 2482 and 2483, and in 2484 and 2485, and in 2486 and 2487, and in 2488 and 2489, and in 2490 and 2491, and in 2492 and 2493, and in 2494 and 2495, and in 2496 and 2497, and in 2498 and 2499, and in 2500 and 2501, and in 2502 and 2503, and in 2504 and 2505, and in 2506 and 2507, and in 2508 and 2509, and in 2510 and 2511, and in 2512 and 2513, and in 2514 and 2515, and in 2516 and 2517, and in 2518 and 2519, and in 2520 and 2521, and in 2522 and 2523, and in 2524 and 2525, and in 2526 and 2527, and in 2528 and 2529, and in 2530 and 2531, and in 2532 and 2533, and in 2534 and 2535, and in 2536 and 2537, and in 2538 and 2539, and in 2540 and 2541, and in 2542 and 2543, and in 2544 and 2545, and in 2546 and 2547, and in 2548 and 2549, and in 2550 and 2551, and in 2552 and 2553, and in 2554 and 2555, and in 2556 and 2557, and in 2558 and 2559, and in 2560 and 2561, and in 2562 and 2563, and in 2564 and 2565, and in 2566 and 2567, and in 2568 and 2569, and in 2570 and 2571, and in 2572 and 2573, and in 2574 and 2575, and in 2576 and 2577, and in 2578 and 2579, and in 2580 and 2581, and in 2582 and 2583, and in 2584 and 2585, and in 2586 and 2587, and in 2588 and 2589, and in 2590 and 2591, and in 2592 and 2593, and in 2594 and 2595, and in 2596 and 2597, and in 2598 and 2599, and in 2600 and 2601, and in 2602 and 2603, and in 2604 and 2605, and in 2606 and 2607, and in 2608 and 2609, and in 2610 and 2611, and in 2612 and 2613, and in 2614 and 2615, and in 2616 and 2617, and in 2618 and 2619, and in 2620 and 2621, and in 2622 and 2623, and in 2624 and 2625, and in 2626 and 2627, and in 2628 and 2629, and in 2630 and 2631, and in 2632 and 2633, and in 2634 and 2635, and in 2636 and 2637, and in 2638 and 2639, and in 2640 and 2641, and in 2642 and 2643, and in 2644 and 2645, and in 2646 and 2647, and in 2648 and 2649, and in 2650 and 2651, and in 2652 and 2653, and in 2654 and 2655, and in 2656 and 2657, and in 2658 and 2659, and in 2660 and 2661, and in 2662 and 2663, and in 2664 and 2665, and in 2666 and 2667, and in 2668 and 2669, and in 2670 and 2671, and in 2672 and 2673, and in 2674 and 2675, and in 2676 and 2677, and in 2678 and 2679, and in 2680 and 2681, and in 2682 and 2683, and in 2684 and 2685, and in 2686 and 2687, and in 2688 and 2689, and in 2690 and 2691, and in 2692 and 2693, and in 2694 and 2695, and in 2696 and 2697, and in 2698 and 2699, and in 2700 and 2701, and in 2702 and 2703, and in 2704 and 2705, and in 2706 and 2707, and in 2708 and 2709, and in 2710 and 2711, and in 2712 and 2713, and in 2714 and 2715, and in 2716 and 2717, and in 2718 and 2719, and in 2720 and 2721, and in 2722 and 2723, and in 2724 and 2725, and in 2726 and 2727, and in 2728 and 2729, and in 2730 and 2731, and in 2732 and 2733, and in 2734 and 2735, and in 2736 and 2737, and in 2738 and 2739, and in 2740 and 2741, and in 2742 and 2743, and in 2744 and 2745, and in 2746 and 2747, and in 2748 and 2749, and in 2750 and 2751, and in 2752 and 2753, and in 2754 and 2755, and in 2756 and 2757, and in 2758 and 2759, and in 2760 and 2761, and in 2762 and 2763, and in 2764 and 2765, and in 2766 and 2767, and in 2768 and 2769, and in 2770 and 2771, and in 2772 and 2773, and in 2774 and 2775, and in 2776 and 2777, and in 2778 and 2779, and in 2780 and 2781, and in 2782 and 2783, and in 2784 and 2785, and in 2786 and 2787, and in 2788 and 2789, and in 2790 and 2791, and in 2792 and 2793, and in 2794 and 2795, and in 2796 and 2797, and in 2798 and 2799, and in 2800 and 2801, and in 2802 and 2803, and in 2804 and 2805, and in 2806 and 2807, and in 2808 and 2809, and in 2810 and 2811, and in 2812 and 2813, and in 2814 and 2815, and in 2816 and 2817, and in 2818 and 2819, and in 2820 and 2821, and in 2822 and 2823, and in 2824 and 2825, and in 2826 and 2827, and in 2828 and 2829, and in 2830 and 2831, and in 2832 and 2833, and in 2834 and 2835, and in 2836 and 2837, and in 2838 and 2839, and in 2840 and 2841, and in 2842 and 2843, and in 2844 and 2845, and in 2846 and 2847, and in 2848 and 2849, and in 2850 and 2851, and in 2852 and 2853, and in 2854 and 2855, and in 2856 and 2857, and in 2858 and 2859, and in 2860 and 2861, and in 2862 and 2863, and in 2864 and 2865, and in 2866 and 2867, and in 2868 and 2869, and in 2870 and 2871, and in 2872 and 2873, and in 2874 and 2875, and in 2876 and 2877, and in 2878 and 2879, and in 2880 and 2881, and in 2882 and 2883, and in 2884 and 2885, and in 2886 and 2887, and in 2888 and 2889, and in 2890 and 2891, and in 2892 and 2893, and in 2894 and 2895, and in 2896 and 2897, and in 2898 and 2899, and in 2900 and 2901, and in 2902 and 2903, and in 2904 and 2905, and in 2906 and 2907, and in 2908 and 2909, and in 2910 and 2911, and in 2912 and 2913, and in 2914 and 2915, and in 2916 and 2917, and in 2918 and 2919, and in 2920 and 2921, and in 2922 and 2923, and in 2924 and 2925, and in 2926 and 2927, and in 2928 and 2929, and in 2930 and 2931, and in 2932 and 2933, and in 2934 and 2935, and in 2936 and 2937, and in 2938 and 2939, and in 2940 and 2941, and in 2942 and 2943, and in 2944 and 2945, and in 2946 and 2947, and in 2948 and 2949, and in 2950 and 2951, and in 2952 and 2953, and in 2954 and 2955, and in 2956 and 2957, and in 2958 and 2959, and in 2960 and 2961, and in 2962 and 2963, and in 2964 and 2965, and in 2966 and 2967, and in 2968 and 2969, and in 2970 and 2971, and in 2972 and 2973, and in 2974 and 2975, and in 2976 and 2977, and in 2978 and 2979, and in 2980 and 2981, and in 2982 and 2983, and in 2984 and 2985, and in 2986 and 2987, and in 2988 and 2989, and in 2990 and 2991, and in 2992 and 2993, and in 2994 and 2995, and in 2996 and 2997, and in 2998 and 2999, and in 3000 and 3001, and in 3002 and 3003, and in 3004 and 3005, and in 3006 and 3007, and in 3008 and 3009, and in 3010 and 3011, and in 3012 and 3013, and in 3014 and 3015, and in 3016 and 3017, and in 3018 and 3019, and in 3020 and 3021, and in 3022 and 3023, and in 3024 and 3025, and in 3026 and 3027, and in 3028 and 3029, and in 3030 and 3031, and in 3032 and 3033, and in 3034 and 3035, and in 3036 and 3037, and in 3038 and 3039, and in 3040 and 3041, and in 3042 and 3043, and in 3044 and 3045, and in 3046 and 3047, and in 3048 and 3049, and in 3050 and 3051, and in 3052 and 3053, and in 3054 and 3055, and in 3056 and 3057, and in 3058 and 3059, and in 3060 and 3061, and in 3062 and 3063, and in 3064 and 3065, and in 3066 and 3067, and in 3068 and 3069, and in 3070 and 3071, and in 3072 and 3073, and in 3074 and 3075, and in 3076 and 3077, and in 3078 and 3079, and in 3080 and 3081, and in 3082 and 3083, and in 3084 and 3085, and in 3086 and 3087, and in 3088 and 3089, and in 3090 and 3091, and in 3092 and 3093, and in 3094 and 3095, and in 3096 and 3097, and in 3098 and 3099, and in 3100 and 3101, and in 3102 and 3103, and in 3104 and 3105, and in 3106 and 3107, and in 3108 and 3109, and in 3110 and 3111, and in 3112 and 3113, and in 3114 and 3115, and in 3116 and 3117, and in 3118 and 3119, and in 3120 and 3121, and in 3122 and 3123, and in 3124 and 3125, and in 3126 and 3127, and in 3128 and 3129, and in 3130 and 3131, and in 3132 and 3133, and in 3134 and 3135, and in 3136 and 3137, and in 3138 and 3139, and in 3140 and 3141, and in 3142 and 3143, and in 3144 and 3145, and in 3146 and 3147, and in 3148 and 3149, and in 3150 and 3151, and in 3152 and 3153, and in 3154 and 3155, and in 3156 and 3157, and in 3158 and 3159, and in 3160 and 3161, and in 3162 and 3163, and in 3164 and 3165, and in 3166 and 3167, and in 3168 and 3169, and in 3170 and 3171, and in 3172 and 3173, and in 3174 and 3175, and in 3176 and 3177, and in 3178 and 3179, and in 3180 and 3181, and in 3182 and 3183, and in 3184 and 3185, and in 3186 and 3187, and in 3188 and 3189, and in 3190 and 3191, and in 3192 and 3193, and in 3194 and 3195, and in 3196 and 3197, and in 3198 and 3199, and in 3200 and 3201, and in 3202 and 3203, and in 3204 and 3205, and in 3206 and 3207, and in 3208 and 3209, and in 3210 and 3211, and in 3212 and 3213, and in 3214 and 3215, and in 3216 and 3217, and in 3218 and 3219, and in 3220 and 3221, and in 3222 and 3223, and in 3224 and 3225, and in 3226 and 3227, and in 3228 and 3229, and in 3230 and 3231, and in 3232 and 3233, and in 3234 and 3235, and in 3236 and 3237, and in 3238 and 3239, and in 3240 and 3241, and in 3242 and 3243, and in 3244 and 3245, and in 3246 and 3247, and in 3248 and 3249, and in 3250 and 3251, and in 3252 and 3253, and in 3254 and 3255, and in 3256 and 3257, and in 3258 and 3259, and in 3260 and 3261, and in 3262 and 3263, and in 3264 and 3265, and in 3266 and 3267, and in 3268 and 3269, and in 3270 and 3271, and in 3272 and 3273, and in 3274 and 3275, and in 3276 and 3277, and in 3278 and 3279, and in 3280 and 3281, and in 3282 and 3283, and in 3284 and 3285, and in 3286 and 3287, and in 3288 and 3289, and in 3290 and 3291, and in 3292 and 3293, and in 3294 and 3295, and in 3296 and 3297, and in 3298 and 3299, and in 3300 and 3301, and in 3302 and 3303, and in 3304 and 3305, and in 3306 and 3307, and in 3308 and 3309, and in 3310 and 3311, and in 3312 and 3313, and in 3314 and 3315, and in 3316 and 3317, and in 3318 and 3319, and in 3320 and 3321, and in 3322 and 3323, and in 3324 and 3325, and in 3326 and 3327, and in 3328 and 3329, and in 3330 and 3331, and in 3332 and 3333, and in 3334 and 3335, and in 3336 and 3337, and in 3338 and 3339, and in 3340 and 3341, and in 3342 and 3343, and in 3344 and 3345, and in 3346 and 3347, and in 3348 and 3349, and in 3350 and 3351, and in 3352 and 3353, and in 3354 and 3355, and in 3356 and 3357, and in 3358 and 3359, and in 3360 and 3361, and in 3362 and 3363, and in 3364 and 3365, and in 3366 and 3367, and in 3368 and 3369, and in 3370 and 3371, and in 3372 and 3373, and in 3374 and 3375, and in 3376 and 3377, and in 3378 and 3379, and in 3380 and 3381, and in 3382 and 3383, and in 3384 and 3385, and in 3386 and 3387, and in 3388 and 3389, and in 3390 and